INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T COUNTRY Hungary REPORT 25X1 Marko Prison, Budapest DATE DISTR. 22 March 1955 NO. OF PAGES RD REQUIREMENT NO. DATE OF INFO. REFERENCES PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1 This is UNEVALUATED Information DATE ACQUIRED SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

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- The Marko Prison occupies a five-story building at 27 Marko Street, Budapest V.
 The outer gate is guarded by a sentry in police uniform, armed with an automatic weapon. All guards inside the prison belong to the special prison police and are also armed with automatic weapons.
- 2. A prisoner is first taken to the prosecutor in charge and after handing over the order of imprisonment, etc., is taken by a police guard from the police headquarters to the reception office of the prison, which is the first room to the right of the entrance gate. At this office the personal data of the prisoner are registered and his Identity Card is taken away from him and sent to the issuing office of the Rendőrfőosztály (police department) of his district of residence. When a prisoner is released, his Identity Card is returned to him by the issuing office on presentation of his discharge certificate. At the reception office the prisoner must hand in all his personal belongings; he is allowed to retain only a comb and handkerchief. The prisoner is then led to the checking room, located across the inner courtyard, where he has to strip, and his clothing is thoroughly searched. After he has taken a shower, his clothing is returned to him, with the pockets turned inside out and the lining torn. He is then taken to the collective cell on the ground floor, where he remains about 24 hours, until he is brought before the interrogation officer.
- 3. The interrogator urges the prisoner to cooperate and reveal the names of his accomplices, and in cases of economic offenses or embezzlement, to reveal other such cases known to him at his place of employment. He is promised that if he cooperates fully, the charges against him will be dropped, or he will receive a light sentence, but such promises are never fulfilled. After the interrogation the prisoner is assigned to a cell with other immates charged with similar offenses. The first, second, and third floors of the prison are occupied by non-political male prisoners awaiting trial (köztörvényes rabok) and convicts about to be transferred to a labor camp (rabtelep).

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution	by "#".)

The fourth floor is occupied by political prisoners who are to be tried by civil courts and those charged with minor political offenses and whose files are not marked with an O. Files of political prisoners charged with severe crimes are marked with one or two O's, the most se vere political crimes being marked with two O's (egy vagy ket nullas akta vagy ugy). There are also cells for female political prisoners on the fourth floor. The chief wardens in charge of the fourth floor are changed every two weeks in order to prevent any possible fraternization with the prisoners. Wardens are relieved every four hours. In addition to the prison wardens, three security officials in civilian clothes, one in each wing, are permanently on duty on the fourth floor.

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- The fifth floor is reserved for non-political women prisoners (Koztbrvenyes noi rabok).
- Each floor has 28 rooms. The prison cells on all floors are rooms No. 15, 18, and 24. Rooms No. 17 are wardens, rest rooms, and rooms No. 23 are offices. Rooms No. 28 are release cells (szabaduló zarka) to which prisoners about to be discharged are transferred.
- 7. The basement contains the prison kitchen, medical inspection room, the fingerprint department, photography department, workshops, and part of the prison

8.	Laszlo Valko is the prosecutor in charge of the Marko Prison	25X1
9•	Péter Molnar, a sergeant major, is the chief warden in charge of the first floor of the prison.	25X1
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Comment: This is a holding prison for residents of Budapest and County Pest who are coming up for trial. It is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice. Courts servicing several districts of Budapest and also the County of Budapest are in the same building and at 25 Marko -u. Budapest.

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